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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MORPC's Summit Session 'Advancing Active Transportation Systems to Benefit People and the Planet' will feature University of Minnesota's Greg Lindsey

(Columbus – August 29, 2012) The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission's (MORPC) signature environmental conference, Summit on Sustainability & the Environment, returns to central Ohio this October to aid community leaders, businesses and individuals in going green. This year's Summit will take place Wednesday, October 3 as a featured event of <u>EcoSummit 2012</u> from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

MORPC is pleased to announce Greg Lindsey, Professor and Executive Associate Dean of the Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota as the speaker for the Active Transportation session. Active transportation—or "human powered"--infrastructure is a crucial component in our ongoing quest to improve and protect the environment, local economies, and the health and welfare of those with whom we share the planet. During this session we will explore the positive impacts of trails, as well as examining ways in which key cities are successfully advancing their active transportation agenda.

Lindsey specializes in environmental planning, policy, and management. His current research involves nonmotorized transportation systems, including bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, and studies of relationships between the built environment and active transportation and physical activity.

Lindsey has published articles in the Journal of the American Planning Association, Journal of Environmental Planning and Management, Journal of Physical Activity and Health, Professional Geographer, Journal of Recreation and Park Administration, Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management, Public Works Management and Policy, State and Local Government Review, Landscape and Urban Planning, Public Productivity and Management Review, and Journal of Planning Education and Research.

Lindsey earned his doctorate and a master's degree in geography and environmental engineering at the Johns Hopkins University. He also received a master's degree in geography and environmental studies from Northeastern Illinois University. His bachelor's degree is in urban planning and is from the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign.

The Summit morning session will include the keynote and MORPC Green Region Awards. The luncheon will provide an opportunity for Summit participants to visit the EcoSummit Exhibition Hall where exhibitors from across the country will showcase best practices, sustainable solutions and the

most recent technology in preserving and protecting our ecosystems. An agenda for the 2012 Summit can be found at www.greenregion.org.

The cost to register for the October 3 Summit event is \$75. Registrations can be made online at www.greenregion.org, and early bird registration is available through September 17. Sponsorships are still available for this event. Please contact Brandi Whetstone at 614-233-4174 via email at bwhetstone@morpc.org or visit sponsorship opportunities at www.greenregion.org.

Designated as central Ohio's metropolitan planning agency, MORPC is a voluntary association of 44 local governments. The Center for Energy & Environment at MORPC serves as a community resource in the region by offering a variety of services including: daily air quality forecasts, trail coordination, educational presentations, watershed planning, home weatherization, government carbon footprint analysis and more.